

# Middle East Region Civil Air Patrol

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## Commanders Update Briefing

9 March 2016



Col John Knowles  
MER/CC

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# MER Staff Briefing



- HC – Chaplain
- HO – Historian
- IG – Inspector General
- JA – Legal
- PA – Public Affairs
- SE – Safety
- CMC – Region Command Chief
- A1 – Personnel/Admin
- A3 – Operations
- A4 – Logistics
- A5/8 – Plans and Programs
- A6 – Communications
- A7 – Mission Support
- A7E – Aerospace Education
- A7O – Cadet Programs
- A7P – Professional Development
- A9 – Finance



# MER Command Staff Briefing



- Chief Of Staff
- Region Commander

*Time Permitting:*

- A6I - Information Technology



# MER/HC

## Lt Col Greg Hill



<b><i>Top Accomplishments this Period</i></b>	<b><i>Top Goals next Period</i></b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• February 2016</li><li>• Participated in Chief of Chaplains Advisory Council Telephonic meeting re: approval of CAP Specialty Track 225 (CDI) requirements</li><li>• Continued processing applications for Chaplains and CDIs.</li><li>• Provided CDI training for Myrtle Beach Squadron.</li><li>• Completed EOY Awards Recommendations</li><li>• Continued work with Ch Kennedy's Capstone Project</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• March 2016</li><li>• Wing Commanders and Wing Chaplains urgently recruit CDIs per new CAPR 265-1 guidelines.</li><li>• Continue work with Ch Kennedy on Capstone Project</li><li>• Continue work on CCRSC</li><li>• Attend SCWG CTW</li><li>• Prepare for MER Staff Retreat</li><li>• Continue coordination with Maj Reed re: 2016 MER Annual Conference.</li></ul>
<b><i>Risks / Problems</i></b>	<b><i>Assistance Needed</i></b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Not meeting recruiting goal to have at least one chaplain or CDI in each Squadron.</li><li>• Low attendance at May CCRSC.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Recruitment and retention.</li><li>• TOP 3 GOALS: Begin emphasis on CDI attendance at 2016 CCRSC; Each Squadron in MER have an assigned CDI or Chaplain; 100% reporting of HC/CDIs on semi-annual electronic reporting end of period 30 June 16.</li></ul>



# MER/HO

## Maj Joseph Myers



<b><i>Top Accomplishments this Period</i></b>	<b><i>Top 3 Goals 2016</i></b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Have started to compiling the Region Annual History.</li><li>2. Have started work on NCWG Annual History for 2015</li></ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Promote Professional Development for Historians across the region. Promote the flow of feedback and ideas across the Region.</li><li>2. Support the development of new Historians in the Region</li><li>3. Complete Annual Region History &amp; submit to NNQ Prior to deadline.</li></ol>
<b><i>Risks / Problems</i></b>	<b><i>Assistance Needed</i></b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lack of understanding of the Historian's function</li><li>• Lack of information</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reporting of Region Staff Activities for 2015 to be included in the Annual History</li><li>• Encouragement of Wing Historians to produce and forward Annual Wing History Reports.</li></ul>



# MER/IG

## Lt Col Cheryl Fielitz-Scarborough



### *Top Accomplishments this Period*

- ☐ Complaint resolution –
- ☐ On the National IG report – we had no RED for SUI 27 month time frame and no RED for DTS 6 month time frame.
- ☐ I have begun work on RCLS-South
- ☐ Safety Blitz Tasks
- ☐ MER retreat

### *Top Goals next Period*

- ☐ Keep DTS and SUI Status out of the **RED**
- ☐ Next IG Conf call – 22 March, 2000hrs
- ☐ Organization of IG Summit 2016.

#### Goals:

1. Well trained and highly qualified IG Corps
2. No MER units in **RED** for SUI timeline or DTS
3. Complaint Resolution conducted and closed in timely fashion.

### *Risks / Problems*

- ☐ RCLS – South Staffing

### *Assistance Needed*

- ☐ IG Summit 2016.



# MER/JA

## Lt Col Tim Corrigan



Top Accomplishments this Period	Top Goals next Period
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Prepared draft presentation materials for JA presentation at the MER Conference</li><li>• Conducted a combined MER JA team and MER WG JA leadership conference call</li><li>• Appointed Capt Daniel Cohn to an additional duty Assistant JA position</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Continue to refine the draft presentation for the MER Conference</li></ul>
Risks / Problems	Assistance Needed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• None</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• None</li></ul>



# MER/PA

## Maj Brenda Reed



### ***Top Accomplishments this Period***

- Assisted NHQ with *Volunteer* article for Civic Leadership Academy
- Photographer during Legislative Day
- Advised 2 wing PAOs on specific issues related to their programs
- Completed PAO 'of the year' selection
- **MER Conference:**
  - Registration open! Sign up and save – prices go up April 1 (no fooling!)
  - Planning is progressing and on schedule
  - Registrations are coming in

### ***Top Goals next Period***

- Continue to review wing PA and Crisis Communications Plans for CY 2016
- Training cadet PAOs for Tri-Wing Encampment Mar 15 (plus design online course for encampment PAOs)
- **MER Conference:**
  - Marketing with training session list
  - Continue scripts (work with command)
  - assist CAC with cadet conference

### ***Risks / Problems***

None

### ***Assistance Needed***

None

3/16





# MER/SE, Mar 2016

## Maj. Guy Butts



### ***Top Accomplishments this Period***

- There are 14 Open MER Mishaps in the Mishap Reporting Process the same from 14 in Feb
- 97% - 138/142 MER Units have completed FY 2015 Unit Annual Safety Surveys: DC-7/7, DE-9/9, MD-30/31, NC-36/36, SC-13/16, VA-28/28. WV-15/15
- Completed MER FY 2016 Safety Blitz ConOps for all MER Wing CC/SE
- Completed MER FY 2016 Staff Safety Blitz

### ***Top Goals next Period***

- Continue to assist each Wing SE's with the MER FY 2016 Safety Blitz.
- Continue to talk with MER Wing SE's on a frequent basis/daily/weekly via email text and cell phone
- Work on my MER Wing Conference 2016 presentation
- Communicate weekly with CAP NHQ Safety Staff

### ***Risks / Problems***

- ❖ MER March 8 Monthly Safety Education participation is 21% 9/43, Feb 17%
- ❖ Wing 3/8/16 Monthly Safety Currency: DC-53%, DE-38%, MD-24%, NC-33%, SC-26%, VA-9%, WV-36%.

### ***Assistance Needed***

- ☐ Ensure Squadron Cadet Programs do not perform the Shuttle Run
- ☐ Improvement in the MER Monthly Safety Currency Education compliance %



# MER/CMC

## Chief Rommel Inoa



<i><b>Top Accomplishments this Period</b></i>	<i><b>Top Goals next Period</b></i>
<b>Command NCO appointments</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• NATCAPWG – CMSgt Dennis Orcutt</li><li>• NCWG – CMSgt Lou Walpus; awaiting confirmation from NCWG</li><li>• DEWG – CMSgt Bernard Coleman; awaiting confirmation from DEWG</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• For every MER Wing to select its own Wing Command NCO</li></ul>
<i><b>Risks / Problems</b></i>	<i><b>Assistance Needed</b></i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Need each MER Wing to appoint a Wing Command NCO, if able</li><li>• Encourage prior active duty NCOs to entertain the idea of selecting CAP NCO path</li></ul>



# MER/A1

## Maj James Brogan



### ***Top Accomplishments this Period***

- Welcome to Lt Col Lybrand, our incoming A1
- 110 Annual Award nominations reviewed
- 6 Promotions Processed
- 5 Decorations Processed
- 2 Policies reviewed
- ...and a partridge in a pear tree 😊

### ***Top Goals next Period***

- Submit MER/CC annual award selections to NHQ
- Need to schedule next PhoneCon with wings
- Lt Col Lybrand has begun updating the MER Org Chart
- Consolidate lessons learned from Annual Awards

### ***Risks / Problems***

### ***Assistance Needed***

- None at this time.



# MER/DO A3 March 2016 Slide

## Lt Col Langley / Maj Stuart



### ***Top Accomplishments this Period***

Remember MER staff has AF training budget for our use in maintaining our currency and readiness. Contact the A3e or A3 for sortie entry and approval.

MERSAR planning and execution is in full swing. We are working on staffing and logistical planning

MER Received 4 brand new G-1000 C182's this month. This was a plus up. No aircraft were required to be turned in in exchange for these birds

- Assisted wing DO Counterparts daily as needed.

### ***Risks / Problems***

- Constant monitoring of AIR and Ground ops for safety issues and trends

### ***Top Goals next Period***

- MERSAR 2016 is April 22-24 2016 @ Ft Pickett
- Preparation for MER Conference in May
- Recruiting and Attempting to Staff the open positions in the Operations A3 Team
- Review and assist wing DO Counterparts daily as needed.

### ***Assistance Needed***

- Staff support needed at MERSAR 2016 Next month. All hands on deck needed.



# MER/A4

## Lt Col David Oldham



### ***Top Accomplishments this Period***

- Staff - please request a laptop. There are five for distribution
  - One laptop was delivered this week

### ***Top Goals next Period***

- Distribute remaining laptops
- Vehicle for CAP Use – I have Van 99065 it is a cargo van without windows and only the two front seats (no bench seats in the rear). It is available to MER Staff members on a per use basis for CAP business. As usual, please return it with a full tank of fuel and clean. Hopefully without damage.

### ***Risks / Problems***

### ***Assistance Needed***



# MER/A5/8 Plans and Programs

## Lt Col Haertel



### ***Top Accomplishments this Period***

- Completed Draft CAP Manual Training in CAP.

### ***Top Goals next Period***

- 6-10 April Staff Training Weekend FY 17 ATP
- FY 17 OP Plans Portfolio
- MER Conference 20 May
- CAP Manual- Training in CAP
- National Staff College 3-10 April 16

### ***Risks / Problems***

### ***Assistance Needed***

- None



**MER/A6**

**Lt Col Maurice Thomas**



***Top Accomplishments this Period***

- **Continuous Outstanding Participation in NTN.** MER communicators, Number One!
- 2016 Region Communications Plan – completed & distributed – comment period
- Continued direct support to NHQ-NTC
- Ft. Pickett UHF Repeater may require inspection and check-out
- 2016 NESA School attendance
- 2016 MER-SAR College planning & prep

***Top Goals next Period***

- Wing Communications Plans constantly reviewed
- National Traffic Net – Goal of 100% HF participation by all region assets
- National Traffic Net – Daily representation by all wings
- Be “value-added” asset to wings
- Recruitment of new technical talent
- CUL + RDO training modules

***Risks / Problems***

- **ROS of “live” and irreplaceable assets**
- Justification for future replacements
- UHF ISR radios will not be replaced
- VHF handhelds are in short supply
- NTC demand for itinerant radios shortfall
- Region staff and command to regularly utilize/exercise assets

***Assistance Needed***

- **Minimize the loss of irreplaceable assets**
- Reporting of frequent equipment failures
- Awareness of maintenance cycles and costs
- Planning assistance to the wings
- AAR must stress comm support
- Active feedback from DO and CC – focus on command concerns
- Increase CUL-T training opportunities



# MER/A6I

## Maj Jim Holcomb



### ***Top Accomplishments this Period***

- **Thank you for the warm welcome!**
- **Website:**
  - Created new module for FY16 ATP
  - Created new “Upcoming Events” menu. Currently 4 new items posted
    - MERSAR College 2016
    - MERCCSC (Chaplains College)
    - MER RCLS
    - MER Staff College
  - Also posted staff openings for RCLS
- General acclamations to new position

### ***Top Goals next Period***

- Received new directions from MER/CV East – to be discussed at upcoming Staff Retreat
- Continue to make MER Website interactive and relevant central location for MER activities and events.
- Reach out to MER PAO for updated image content for front page. Recent and relevant.
- Assist to determine IT needs for MERSAR and Staff Retreat.
- Assist DCoS Staff to update their sections of the MER Staff Sections webpages.

### ***Risks / Problems***

- Stepping into new position requires small learning curve. Be patient please 😊
- We have experienced some minor issues with OwnCloud. Major release upcoming this week. Hopefully this will resolve these issues.
- Subordinate staff members do not have unique, individual Email/OwnCloud access

### ***Assistance Needed***

- MERSAR: Wifi / MiFi hotspots needed.
- Interviewing for Assistant Dir of IT
- Ideas on how to incorporate 75<sup>th</sup> year Anniversary into the MER website.
- Capabilities link? Total Force video?
- Recent MER Events, such as SC flooding, VIRB, Comms HF international contact.





# MER/A7 Col Trick



## ***Top Accomplishments this Period***

- Continue to work with Wing PD, CP, AE
- “Of the Years” done
- C/Col Michael McLaughlin Spaatz # 2028 (DEWG)
- Level V Maj Walt Edwards (MDWG)

## ***Top Goals next Period***

- AE - Encourage use of STEM kits  
- more/new kits/topics coming
- PD - More Level V completions
- Complete staffing of RCLS and RSC

## ***Risks / Problems***

## ***Assistance Needed***

- Staff for RSC



# MER/A7E

## Lt Col McLellan



### ***Top Accomplishments this Period***

- Continue to work with Wing AE
- STEM Quad copters are out.
- Notify Wings that an Aero Ed Training will Take Place at MER Conference
- Attend AERO Training at NER
- Inform Wing AEOs of AMA Safety Alert on Use of Li Po Batteries for Quad Copters

### ***Top Goals next Period***

- AE - Encourage use of STEM kits  
- more/new kits/topics coming soon
- AE - Encourage Local Units to interact with their Local School Systems
- Contact each Wing AE Officer and introduce myself and offer my help.
- Use NER AERO Ed training to advance MER training.

### ***Risks / Problems***

- None

### ***Assistance Needed***



A70

## William “Bill” Ryan, Lt Col, CAP



<i><b>Top Accomplishments this Period</b></i>	<i><b>Top Goals next Period</b></i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• RCLS-South 10-15July16 Director Lt Col Cheryl Fielitz-Scarborough Seymour-Johnson AFB, NC</li><li>• RCLS-North 17-22July16 Camp Pendleton, VA</li><li>• Spaatz Awards<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• C/Col Michael McLaughlin(DEWG)</li></ul></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Finish MER CP Staffing - Refill CAC advisor</li><li>• Continue rewriting RCLS curriculum</li><li>• Continue CP planning for MER Conference</li><li>• Have primary and assistant in each CP position.</li></ul>
<i><b>Risks / Problems</b></i>	<i><b>Assistance Needed</b></i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Move the Warrior Challenge to the fall time frame.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Looking for a Director for RCLS-North.</li></ul>



# MER/A7P

## Lt Col Dunn



### ***Top Accomplishments this Period***

- Continue to work with Wing PDs  
- give assistance with PD courses  
(TLC, CLC, SLS, UCC)
- Online TLC is out in MDWG
- MER Members completing Level V  
Maj Walt Edwards (MDWG)

### ***Top Goals next Period***

- Complete staffing of MER RSC 2016
- Get more Master Levels in specialty tracks
- Get more members to Level V
- Decrease time to Process PD Awards

### ***Risks / Problems***

### ***Assistance Needed***



# MER/FM

## Lt Col Phyllis Griffin



### ***Top Accomplishments this Period***

- Processed all requests for payment/deposits
- Processed monthly credit card bill
- Attended Winter Command Council
- Discussions with Susan Easter to discuss finance issues (flight academy, NCSA finances and finance forms for activities)
- Working with various staff for MER activity budgets
- Working on Spaatz Association grant for MER HGA

### ***Top Goals next Period***

- Process all requests for payment/deposits
- Reconcile bank accounts
- Process credit card bill
- Work with Conference Project Officer to handle finances for conference
- Hold quarterly FM conference call

### ***Risks / Problems***

Computer infected; files encrypted and cannot open unless I pay hacker \$500. Using older, SLOWER computer

### ***Assistance Needed***

- Plan to get assistant more involved



# MER/CS

## Col Eugene Egry



### ***Top Accomplishments this Period***

- New A1 selected – Lt Col Ted Lybrand, NCWG (was former SER A1)
- New A7EX selected – LT Col Judith McLellan, Judith, MDWG
- OTY Awards wrapped up and recommendations sent to MER Commander
  - Great job Maj Brogan!

### ***Top Goals next Period***

- MER Staff Retreat – No April Staff Meeting
  - Be ready to discuss your metrics from the scorecard!
- Interviewing for Assistant A6I
- Work with the A6I to establish all MER staff have and use MER email address IE: mer\_a1@mer.cap.gov

### ***Risks / Problems***

- SME review OTY Awards
- MER Staff Safety Blitz / Currency – Should be 100%
- CUB slide should follow this naming convention: MERXX CUB
- Establish remaining MER Staff to Wing Staff conference calls. Minimum Quarterly

### ***Assistance Needed***

- Developing depth in staff – assistants



# MER/CC

## Col John Knowles



- **Staff Plays a Vital Role In EVERYTHING we do in the MER**
- **MER Staff Retreat - Track your goals**
  - Moved to the middle of the MER
  - Be Leaning forward to FY 17 ATP
- **We will need your help at the MER Conference!**
  - Got an Email from Maj Reed? – Lets all step up to help
- **MER “Of The Year” – We HAVE no empty slots!!! Thanks**
- **R & R Officer – Lt Col John Lierenz**
- **Tracking on CP and A/1**
- **MER Website – Current Events**
  - OPS – MERSAR
  - PD – MERSC
  - CP – RCLS North and South
- **Sorry Not on Call – WAA in Maine**